1: Blackwood E-5 (1929-1930) 1935
ON6 Buka ON6
Kurtatchi

805

tsubnu = to-morrow.
buynu = day after to-morrow.
buey tawun = in ten days' time.[1]
iboin = yesterday.
naniau = day before yesterday.
buey pusān = the day before that.
buey watʃin = the day before that again, i.e. 4 days ago.

Within the day, time is designated by reference to the sun. The speaker points to the place where the sun will be in the sky at the time indicated. In these latitudes, this varies hardly at all at the same time of day throughout the year. The names of the different parts of the day are as follows:

patsun takas = early dawn (lit. 'the head of the dawn', when the sun is still below the horizon).
subsub = dawn, as it begins to get lighter.
pōtan taputs non = sunrise (lit. 'the sun comes up').
patsun toanu = noon (lit. 'the head of the village'); also expressed by *pōtan to no me egin*, 'the sun has gone on top'.
torēv = afternoon (abbreviation of *pōtan to rēv non*, 'the sun begins to go down').
rūkunon = sunset (abbreviation of *pōtan to rūku non*, 'the sun sets').
bubuyi = night (= darkness, as opposed to light).
ōmi = night (as opposed to day, *pa ōmi* = by night).

Except for occasional major excitements, such as the preparations for and performance of an important ceremony, and the tension caused by a death, which, however, soon passes, these folk keep the even tenure of their way, living a life full of small but absorbing interests. They certainly enjoy their pleasures—making love, dancing, eating, gossiping, or 'just sitting'. No one, child or adult, is concerned to 'fill each unforgiving minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance run', but a certain amount of more or less arduous labour must be undertaken in order to provide themselves with means of subsistence, and though the rule 'He that will not work, neither shall he eat' permits of some exceptions, there are few who do not pull their weight in the community.

461

[1] Counting is as follows: (1) *pe'es*, (2) *boak*, (3) *kukan*, (4) *tana*, (5) *tonim*, (6) *tonum*, (7) *tomit*, (8) *tomal*, (9) *toal*, (10) *sumun*. Some groups do not go beyond five.

802